

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 H-03 OMB-01

AEC-11 AECE-00 RSR-01 ACDA-19 IO-13 /138 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6294

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 10083

PENTAGON ALSO FOR SCTY SCHLESINGER; SHAPE FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: X-GDS-1

TAGS: GW, US, MARR, MILI

SUBJECT: ADM CONTROVERSY

1. THE JULY 16 GERMAN NATIONAL PRESS ACCORDED EXTENSIVE FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO MGEN GILLER'S TESTIMONY TO THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE CONCERNING ADM'S. MAIN POINTS IN GERMAN PRESS COVERAGE WERE SIMILAR TO THOSE IN JOHN FINNEY NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE, ALTHOUGH THE MAJOR DAILIES EMPHASIZED DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF GILLER'S TESTIMONY. DIE WELT REPORTED FOR INSTANCE THAT THE US WAS ANGERED OVER GERMAN RESISTANCE TO ATOMIC MINES; THE STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG AND THE FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU GAVE MORE

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COVERAGE TO ALLEGED US PLANS TO DEVELOP SMALL NUCLEAR

WEAPONS FOR DEPLOYMENT TO EUROPE.

2. COMMENT: THE DEPT WILL RECALL THAT THE ADM PROBLEM IN THE PAST STIMULATED CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE MOD WHEN HELMUT SCHMIDT WAS DEFENSE MINISTER. IN ADDITION, THE ISSUE HAS BEEN THE CAUSE OF CONTROVERSY AND WIDESPREAD NEGATIVE COMMENT ABOUT "US PRESSURE" IN THE GERMAN PRESS, WHICH HAS BEEN ALL TOO PRONE TO GIVE SENSATIONAL TREATMENT TO ANYTHING TOUCHING ADM'S. FOR THIS REASON, WE RECOMMENDED LAST YEAR THAT WE NOT REOPEN THE ADM TOPIC WITH THE FRG UNTIL WE HAD RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT THE GERMANS IN FACT WANTED TO DISCUSS IT. GIVEN CURRENT FRG FEARS ABOUT A GROUP OF DEFENSE ISSUES INCLUDING THE PENTAGON STUDY, THE MINI-NUKE ISSUE AND THE US/SOVIET AGREEMENT ON THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE DEPT OR PENTAGON SPOKESMAN COULD MAKE CLEAR IN A LOW KEY WAY ASAP THAT THE GILLER TESTIMONY DOES NOT SIGNIFY THAT WE PRESSING THE FRG ON ADM'S. A PRIVATE WORD ON THIS SUBJECT BY SECDEF TO MINISTER LEBER ALSO WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL.
HILLENBRAND

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NNN

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